

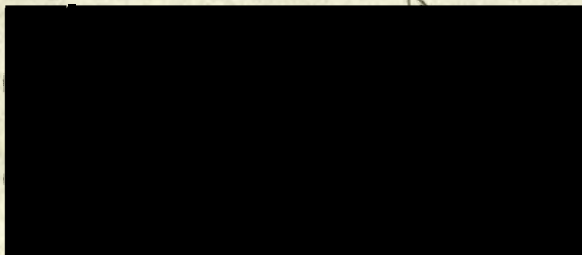
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A PLUMB PNEUMATIC JIG EXPERIMENT

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R E P O R T
O N
A Plumb Pneumatic Jig Experiment
performed by
L,F,Paddison
Presented as A Thesis
for
PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
in
M I N I N G E N G I N N E E R I N G
at
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
1917



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PLUMB JIG EXPERIMENT.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Experiment is to determine to what extent the Plumb Pneumatic Jig would eliminate the quartz content and increase the zinc content in Zinc Concentrate Pile No.8.

Zinc Concentrate Pile No.8 is a hutch product from the Hartz Jig in the Zinc Plant. This product is the undersize from a $\frac{3}{4}$ " trommel.

OPERATIONS:

Head Sample -

I obtained about 140 pounds of sample from Pile No.8 by taking 10 shovels of concentrate at equal intervals around the pile and half way up its sides. Before doing this I removed 6 inches of surface which enabled me to obtain a more nearly representative sample.

This sample was put through the coffee grinder and reduced to pass 6 mesh. A screen test was made upon half of this sample, 1123 ozs, and a head sample cut for assay.

HEAD SAMPLE ASSAY.

	Au.	Ag.	Cu.	Insol.	Fe.	Zn.
Head Sample.....	0.12	7.44	3.75	13.6	15.4	31.9

SCREEN TEST.

Sizes.	Ozs.	% of	Au.	Ag.	Cu.	Insol.	Fe.	Zn.
	Wgt.	Total						
- 4 + 10	16.0	1.43	0.08	6.47	3.6	14.4	19.5	28.6
-10 + 20	209.5	18.66	0.11	6.94	3.2	11.2	17.0	31.0
-20 + 30	151.5	13.49	0.09	7.31	3.4	13.0	15.6	32.2
-30 + 40	113.0	10.06	0.10	7.40	3.4	12.6	15.4	33.2
-40 + 60	165.0	14.70	0.13	7.27	3.4	12.8	14.0	33.5
-60 + 80	22.5	2.00	0.11	7.49	3.4	18.0	14.4	34.1
-80 + 100	77.0	6.86	0.12	7.33	3.4	16.2	14.6	33.8
-100 + 150	47.0	4.19	0.16	7.49	3.6	16.4	15.4	32.4
-150	321.5	28.61	0.12	6.92	4.5	17.4	15.4	31.2
Total..	1123.	100.00						

NOTE: In checking the amount of Insol. Fe. and Zn. in Head sample against amounts found on different screens, in screen test, there is a 5.4% gain in insoluble; .59% gain in zinc and the iron checks. This error may be due to assaying or to sampling. The following results obtained did not warrant re-checking the entire work for the purpose of correcting this error.

Screen sizing was done more closely than Mr. Plumb recommends, because of the very limited field for separation. There were relatively few free particles of quartz present, the balance of the quartz content being attached to small particles of sphalerite, calcopyrite or pyrite. The free quartz particles were the only particles subject to separation, but of course many particles were composed of quartz and sphalerite, and some tended to contain more quartz than sphalerite; these should ^{have found} find their way into the tails, but did not necessarily do so. A table of the Specific Gravity of various particles, composed of varying amounts of quartz and zinc, attached to this report, will tend to explain the limited field for separation, which is due to the closeness of the specific gravity of the particles and also to the fact that they grade from the lowest to the highest, without marked difference.

PRODUCTS TREATED.

Mixed Feed. All attempts with mixed feed to produce -

1st, a bed; and 2nd, to make a separation without a bed, proved a failure. Every possible variation between pulsations, pressure, amount of air, feed and adjustment of tail gate, was tried. I did not, however, try to make a separation on an artificial bed.

RESULTS OBTAINED OF SCREEN PRODUCTS.

Product -4 +10. I made every possible adjustment of varying conditions, on this product. All proved failures. Using the highest pressure of 50# and admission of all the air it would take, with smallest number of pulsations (450 per min.) gave the

only condition that so much as moved the bed. The action on the bed occurred in the center, the side^s remaining quiet. This movement failed to give a discharge on either tail or concentrate side.

PRODUCT: - 10 + 20

No.	Name	Bed	Per Min.	Lbs	Turns	Turns			Ozs	Assays			
			Puls- ation			Pres- sure	Tail Gate	ns		le	Min. Run	Wgt.		Insol.	Fe.	Zn.
2	-10+20	Ore	450	25	Level	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	11.2	16.0	33.6	Concts.
3										12.2	16.6	31.0	Tails
4	-10+20	Ore	580	30	Level	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	6	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.0	17.4	31.9	Concts.
5									17	13.0	15.4	31.2	Tails
7	-10+20	Ore	580	30	5	7	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	12.2	15.0	32.9	Tails
8									28	10.4	17.6	31.6	Concts.
9	-10+20	Ore	580	35	5	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	33	10.8	20.8	32.7	Concts.
10									12	13.8	15.6	33.7	Tails
12	-10+20	Ore	580	35	0	6	$\frac{1}{3}$	5 $\frac{2}{3}$	28	13.0	16.2	32.2	Tails
13									20 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.0	19.6	31.0	Concts.
14	-10+20	Ore	760	20	0	7	$\frac{1}{3}$	12	9	11.6	17.6	31.0	Concts.
15									13 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.6	17.0	31.2	Tails
16	-10+20	Ore	760	25	0	7	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	14	10.4	17.8	31.5	Concts.
17									21 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.4	16.6	31.4	Tails Re-run
18	17 Tails	Ore	760	25	5	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	10.8	17.0	31.3	Concts.
19									9	14.4	15.6	32.5	Tails
20	-10+20	Ore	900	20	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	1	8	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.0	17.8	30.7	Concts.
21									8	13.6	15.8	32.2	Tails
22	-10+20	Ore	900	20	0	7	1	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	10.0	17.2	31.8	Concts.
23									14 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.0	17.6	30.7	Tails
	-10+20	Lead	900	40	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	1	6 $\frac{2}{3}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bed 5 oz. Granul ^d Did not sample. Re-run tail			
									20				
25	-10+20	Lead	900	40	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	1		26 $\frac{1}{2}$	10.4	21.6	31.1	Concts.
26									11	13.8	20.8	31.7	Tails
27	-10+20	Lead	450	45	0	6	$\frac{1}{3}$	10 $\frac{1}{3}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.0	18.2	31.3	Concts.
28									27	12.0	16.4	32.6	Tails

It will be observed from the above figures that there is a general rule regarding the concentration, that is, the separation seems to be between the quartz and sphalerite as a tail; and the calcopyrite, pyrite and sphalerite composing the concentrate.

Samples 16 and 17, retreating tails 17, show the largest variation in quartz, between concentrates and tails. The composite tails shows insoluble 14.6%; composite concentrate 10.6%; while the sphalerite increase in the tail is very scarce in the majority of results tabulated. It does, however, show a slight separation. Samples 2 and 3 show the largest separation of sphalerite in this sized product, an increase of 2.6% over the feed. In this case the increase in zinc contents, is in the concentrate, just reverse of the ordinary condition. The insoluble content is decreased only 1%.

Samples numbered 25 and 26 were made on an artificial granulated lead bed. This bed did not improve conditions or better the concentrate. Every possible adjustment was tried upon this feed. The results recorded appeared to be the very best conditions.

No.	Name	Bed	PRODUCT -20 +30										Assays		
			Per Min.		Turns Tail Gate	Turns		Min. Run	Ozs. Wgt.				Insol.	Fe.	Zn.
			Puls- ation	Lbs. Pres- sure		ns	le Feed Valve								
73	-20+30	Ore	450	15	2	6	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	9	12.4	16.2	33.0	Concts		
74							$\frac{1}{3}$		$4\frac{3}{4}$	16.4	13.2	34.2	Tails		
75	-20+30	Ore	580	20	2	6	$\frac{3}{10}$	10	$7\frac{1}{2}$	12.0	15.6	32.5	Concts.		
76							$\frac{3}{10}$		4	15.6	13.8	34.0	Tails		
77	-20-30	Ore	580	25	$2\frac{1}{2}$	6	$\frac{3}{10}$	16	$18\frac{1}{2}$	12.4	15.6	33.0	Concts.		
78							$\frac{3}{10}$		$13\frac{3}{4}$	14.4	14.4	32.7	Tails	Re-run	
79	78-Tails	Ore	580	25	$2\frac{1}{2}$	6	$\frac{3}{10}$	10	7	18.6	15.4	33.2	Concts.		
80							$\frac{3}{10}$		5	21.8	13.8	32.8	Tails		
81	-20+30	Ore	760	15	2	6	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	9	17.8	15.8	32.7	Concts.		
82							$\frac{1}{3}$		$5\frac{1}{4}$	19.4	15.2	32.4	Tails		
83	-20+30	Ore	760	30	$2\frac{1}{2}$	5	$\frac{3}{10}$	10	$13\frac{1}{2}$	17.8	15.6	33.1	Concts.		
84							$\frac{3}{10}$		$6\frac{1}{2}$	20.2	14.8	32.9	Tails		
85	-20+30	Ore	900	10	3	5	1	5	$8\frac{1}{2}$	17.4	16.0	32.4	Concts		
86									3	20.8	13.6	33.2	Tails		
87	-20+30	Ore	900	20	$2\frac{1}{2}$	5	$\frac{1}{3}$	5	$9\frac{1}{4}$	16.6	16.6	32.3	Concts.		
88							$\frac{1}{3}$		$3\frac{1}{2}$	20.8	13.2	33.9	Tails		
89	-20+30	Ore	900	30	$2\frac{1}{2}$	5	$\frac{1}{4}$	5	$5\frac{1}{2}$	14.8	16.0	32.1	Concts.		
90									$2\frac{1}{4}$	19.4	13.4	33.3	Tails		

This product was no more amenable to separation than product -10+20. Here it appears not unlike the former product in that, the tails show an increase in insoluble while the zinc does not appear to do anything desired of it, either to enrich the concentrate or the tails.

Every possible adjustment was tried, and only the best conditions sampled.

PRODUCT -30 +40

No.	Name	Bed	Per Min Puls- ation	Lbs. Pres- sure	Turns Tail Gate	Turns Feed	Turns Need- le Valve	Min. Run	Ozs. Wgt.	Assays			
										Insol.	Fe.	Zn.	
30	-30+40	Ore	450	15	0	5	$\frac{1}{5}$	10	3	13.0	14.2	34.7	Concts.
31							$\frac{1}{5}$		$4\frac{1}{2}$	13.4	14.2	33.9	Tails
32	-30+40	Ore	450	20	0	7	$\frac{1}{5}$	10	4	12.2	15.8	34.0	Concts.
33							$\frac{1}{5}$		$5\frac{1}{4}$	13.2	13.4	34.3	Tails
34	-30+40	Ore	580	15	2	7	$\frac{1}{5}$	29	$12\frac{3}{4}$	13.2	14.2	34.1	Concts.
							$\frac{1}{5}$						Tails Re-run
35	Tails-34	Ore	580	15	2	7	$\frac{1}{5}$	-	-	13.0	14.8	35.0	Compos. Concts.
36							$\frac{1}{5}$		-	14.2	13.8	34.6	Tails
	-30+40	Ore	760	15	2	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	$24\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$				Tails. Re-run
							$\frac{1}{4}$		12				37&38.
37	Tails	Ore	760	15	2	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	-	$14\frac{1}{2}$	13.5	15.0	34.2	Compos. Concts.
38							$\frac{1}{4}$		$6\frac{3}{4}$	13.7	14.8	34.3	Tails
39	-30+40	Ore	900	15	$\frac{1}{2}$	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	10	$3\frac{3}{4}$	14.0	14.8	33.4	Concts.
40							$\frac{1}{4}$		6	14.0	14.4	34.0	Tails
41	-30+40	Lead	900	15	0	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{2}{3}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$	13.9	14.4	34.2	Concts. Bed 3
42							$\frac{1}{4}$		$4\frac{1}{2}$	15.4	13.2	34.6	Tails. Granu- lated Lea

I re-treated a greater number of tail products on -30+40 than was tried on previous screen tests. Artificial beds of granulated lead were also used on this product. The results were very unsatisfactory. All the different adjustments were tried, the above being the only ones suitable for sampling.

PRODUCT -40 +60

No.	Name	Bed	Per Min.	Lbs.	Turns	Tur-ns		Min.	Ozs.	Assays			
						ns	Need						
			Puls- ation	Pres- sure	Tail Gate	Feed	le Valve	Run	Wgt.	Insol.	Fe.	Zn.	
59	-40+60	Ore	450	3	1½	5	¼	15	10¾	14.2	14.6	33.8	Concts.
60									4	17.8	13.6	35.1	Tails
61	-40+60	Ore	450	10	1	5	⅕	30	19½	13.4	14.4	33.2	Concts.
62									10	16.0	13.2	33.7	Tails. Re-run
63	Tails 62	Ore	450	10	1	5	⅕	13½	6¼	15.0	14.2	34.3	Concts. Not
64									2¾	16.8	12.4	34.8	Composite Tails
65	-40+60	Ore	450	15	1	6	⅓	10	4	15.0	14.0	34.2	Concts.
66							20		2	17.6	12.4	34.1	Tails
67	-40+60	Ore	580	5	1½	6	⅕	10	5	15.0	14.0	34.6	Concts.
68									1¾	18.2	13.0	34.0	Tails
69	-40+60	Ore	580	10	1½	6	⅕	10	5½	13.4	14.8	33.0	Concts.
70									2	18.6	12.0	33.5	Tails
71	-40+60	Ore	760	4	1½	6	¼	10	8½	12.8	15.0	33.2	Concts.
72									3	15.4	13.2	34.3	Tails

Product -40+60 seems to be more adapted to treatment than any product tried. In samples 69 and 70 concentrates and tails respectively, there is a difference of 5½% insoluble, 2.8% iron and .5% zinc. The separation is between the quartz and pyrite. The sphalerite is equally distributed. The variation in Specific Gravity between quartz and pyrite is 2.66 to 5. Of course the close grading of products from one to the other makes an unsatisfactory separation, with so small amount of free quartz present.

PRODUCT -60 +80

No.	Name	Bed	Per Min.	Lbs.	Turns	Tur-ns		Min.	Ozs.	Assays			
						ns	Need						
			Puls- ation	Pres- sure	Tail Gate	Feed	le Valve	Run	Wgt.	Insol.	Fe.	Zn.	
43	-60+80	Ore	450	10	0	6	⅕	16	1	14.8	14.6	33.9	Concts.
44									2½	16.3	13.8	32.6	Tails
45	-60+80	Ore	580	10	½	6	⅕	10	1¾	15.0	14.2	33.1	Concts.
46									1¾	15.8	13.4	33.9	Tails
47	-60+80	Ore	450	5	0	6	¼	10	1½	15.0	14.2	34.0	Concts.
48									1¾	15.2	13.8	34.5	Tails

PRODUCT -80 +100

No.	Name	Bed	Per Min.	Lbs	Turns	Turns		Min.	Ozs.	Assays			
						ns	le			Insol.	Fe.	Zn.	
			Puls- ation	Pres- sure	Tail Gate	Feed	Valve	Run	Wgt.				
49	-80+100	Ore	450	2	0	6	$\frac{1}{3}$	10	$7\frac{1}{2}$	15.0	14.6	33.4	Concts.
50							$\frac{1}{3}$		$2\frac{1}{2}$	16.2	14.0	33.8	Tails
51	-80+100	Ore	450	5	0	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	20	14	15.6	14.6	33.2	Concts.
52									$6\frac{1}{4}$	16.0	14.0	33.7	Tails
53	-80+100	Ore	450	15	0	6	$\frac{1}{5}$	20	$13\frac{1}{2}$	15.4	14.2	33.8	Concts.
54							$\frac{1}{5}$		$5\frac{1}{2}$	15.8	14.0	34.1	Tails
55	-80+100	Ore	580	5	0	4	$\frac{3}{10}$	43	26	14.8	15.0	33.6	Concts.
56									10	15.8	14.0	33.6	Tails. Re-run
57	Tails 56	Ore	580	5	0	4	$\frac{3}{10}$	6	$30\frac{3}{4}$	15.2	14.6	33.3	Concts. Compos-
58									$2\frac{1}{4}$	15.6	14.2	34.0	Tails ite

These products show very unsatisfactory results. The variation of adjustments of Jig is much more limited, with finer products than coarse. High pressures blew the bed out, and the increased pulsations did not allow the products in the bed to settle and separate or segregate, but seemed to hold them suspended in the air.

PRODUCTS: -100 +150 and -150.

Not a single set of adjustments would handle products -100 +150 or -150. Under all conditions blow holes would form and concentration was impossible.

All samples for assay were cut by a Jones sampler after a thorough rolling. These were ground to pass a 100 mesh and were well mixed before assaying.

SPECIFIC GRAVITY TESTS.

To determine the field allowed for separation, I made the following specific gravity test:

		Sp.Gr.
No.1	Blende showing some quartz attached to its surface in thin slabs.....	3.83
No.2	Similar to No.1 with apparently less quartz.....	3.83
Nos. 3, 4 and 5	appeared to have less quartz than No.2	3.87
No.4	. . . . .	3.99
No.5	. . . . .	3.93
No.6	This was an exceptionally clean looking piece of sphalerite.....	4.09
No.7	Sphalerite showing more quartz than 1,2,3,4, and 5, and also more closely associated with sphalerite. This sample showed very small amount of calcopyrite and pyrite.....	3.76
No.8	Similar to No.7, showing an increase in calcopyrite and pyrite.....	3.96
Nos. 9 and 10.	These samples were exceptionally clean pieces of calcopyrite, with very little pyrite and no sphalerite or quartz.....	4.73
NO.10	. . . . .	4.79
No.11	This sample contained much quartz and considerable calcopyrite. No sphalerite was visible	3.89
No.12	Piece of alaskite porphyr showing small crystals of pyrite scattered.....	2.94
Nos.13 and 14.	These two samples consisted of the best looking piece of calcopyrite I could find in the Mammoth Ore Bins.....	4.66
No.14	. . . . .	4.69
Nos.15 and 16.	Exceptionally clean looking pieces of sphalerite from Pile No.8.....	4.05
No.16	. . . . .	4.10

ANALYSES MADE OF THESE SAMPLES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

		Cu.	Insol.	Fe.	Zn.
No.A	Composite made up of samples 1,2,3,4,5	0.4	11.6	2.3	51.0
No.B	Sample No.6	0.2	2.0	1.0	60.8
No.C	Composite made up of samples 9 & 10	5.4	1.6	42.6	2.0
No.D	Composite made up of samples 13 & 14	7.6	3.2	40.8	None
No.E	Composite made up of samples 15 & 16	0.55	2.0	3.4	59.8

It will be observed from the above tables, that Composite A is composed more nearly of representative material of Pile 8 and shows a 11.6% insoluble content and also a corresponding high zinc content of 51.%.

Composite B and E represent very clean and pure pieces of sphalerite, chosen with extreme care; the analyses show a relative low quartz content, only 2% insoluble, and an extremely high zinc content of 60%.

Composite C and D show two grades of exceptionally clean calcopyrite. Composite C is taken from Pile No.8; while Composite E was picked from Mammoth Ore Bins. Considerable of this material occurred in the Zinc concentrate Pile No.8. The presence of this calcopyrite and its small difference in specific gravity from the sphalerite, 0.9, is due to the failure of making a separation between these products.

The specific gravity of quartz is 2.66, while the specific gravity of the average piece of sphalerite is about 3.7. The small variation between these figures shows the limited possibility for separation between the two, when they grade into each other as they do. Consequently this limited field, as well as the opportunity for two separations, called for very fine and careful adjustment during the operation of this experiment.

SUMMARY.

APPEARANCE:

During the entire experiment there was not one run in which I was able to observe, with the eye or a glass, any difference between the concentrate and tails products.

It was impossible to know when the jig was doing its best work or to make profitable adjustments, other than could be

observed, because the test was completed before assays were determined.

BEDS:

Artificial beds of calcopyrite and granulated lead were used. These in all cases proved of no advantage, and did not render as good results as a bed of original feed. Results on calcopyrite beds were not recorded because both concentrates and tails contained noticeable amounts of calcopyrite and made the sample worthless.

I attempted to produce a bed from feed, by allowing the jig to work on the feed for about 4 hours. The bed produced at the end of this period did not differ from the original feed. Consequently my first serious obstacle resulted when starting the experiment, as a bed is essential to the success of this jig.

LIMITS OF TREATMENT:

Only 65.77% of the original sample was applicable to this treatment. Of the 65.77%, 8.87% required extremely careful adjustment of jig to enable its being treated.

CAPACITY:

The capacity on this feed is very low. The average capacity of all runs made in this test is as follows:-

Average capacity equals .3651 ozs per minute per sq.inch working screen.

This would enable the treating of 1.774 tons per 24 hours on a large size jig (3" x 36").

Minimum capacity is equal to .0406 ozs per minute per sq.inch working surface, or .1955 tons per 24 hours on a large machine (3" x 36").

Maximum capacity is equal to 1.59 ozs per minute per sq.inch working surface, or 7.737 tons per 24 hours on a large machine (3" x 36").

The working surface of the screen of the experimental Plumb Jig is $1\frac{7}{8}$ " x $2\frac{7}{8}$ ".

CONSLUSIONS.

The Experiment proved very unsatisfactory when referring to the purpose desired, because

First: Failed to produce working bed.

Second: Failed to make a product materially higher in Zinc than its feed.

Third: Failed to separate quartz and sphalerite.

Experiment made
Jan.20 to Feb.17,1916.
Kennett, California.

Respectfully submitted,

L. F. Padden.